

REMARKS

Summary of the Office Action

Claims 55-58 and 84-87 have been indicated as containing allowable subject matter.

The disclosure is objected to because of minor informalities.

Claims 54, 58 and 87 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite.

Claims 49-53 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,433,842 to Kaneko et al.

Claims 49-53 and 59-73 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,407,782 to Kim et al.

Claims 54 and 74-83 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Kaneko et al. or Kim et al. as applied above, further in view of JP 2001-066262 .

Summary of the Response to the Office Action

Applicants have amended claim 49, 54 and 59 to improve the form and further define the invention. Accordingly, claims 49-87 remain pending in this application for further consideration with claims 1-48 being withdrawn from consideration.

Specification

The disclosure is objected to because of minor informalities. Applicants have amended [0013] and [0019] of the specification in accordance with the Examiner's comments set forth on page 2 of the Office Action. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection to the specification.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

Claims 54, 58 and 87 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. Specifically, the term "the transparent conductive film" in claim 54 allegedly lacks proper antecedent basis, and the term "Tn" in claims 58 and 87 is allegedly unclear. Applicants have amended claim 54 to have proper antecedent basis in claim 54. With regard to claims 58 and 87, Applicants respectfully submit that the term "Tn" in claims 58 and 87 stands for "Thoron" that is an isotope of Radon, and therefore it is clear. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully assert that the rejection of claims 54, 58 and 87 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.

All Claims Define Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 49-53 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,433,842 to Kaneko et al. Claims 49-53 and 59-73 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,407,782 to Kim et al. Claims 54 and 74-83 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Kaneko et al. or Kim et al. as applied above, further in view of JP 2001-066262. To the extent that these rejections might

still apply to the newly amended claims, they are respectfully traversed as being based upon a reference or a combination of references that neither teaches nor suggests the novel combination of features now clearly recited in the claims.

With respect to independent claim 49, as newly-amended, Applicants respectfully submit that Kaneko et al., does not teach or suggest a claimed combination including at least the recited feature of “a sixth step of forming a pixel electrode ... connected to a side surface of the drain electrode.”

In contrast to the present invention of newly-amended independent claim 49, Kaneko et al., as shown in FIG. 1 for example, merely discloses a thin film transistor having a pixel electrode 11 connected to the upper surface of a drain electrode through a contact hole 19. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Kaneko et al., fails to teach or suggest the claimed combination including at least the feature of “a sixth step of forming a pixel electrode ... connected to a side surface of the drain electrode,” as recited in newly-amended independent claim 49.

With respect to independent claim 59, as newly-amended, Applicants respectfully submit that Kim et al., does not teach or suggest a claimed combination including at least the recited feature of “a process of ... to thereby provide a pixel electrode making an interface with the protective film and connected to a side surface of the drain electrode.”

In contrast to the present invention of newly-amended independent claim 59, Kim et al., as shown in Figure 4f for example, merely discloses a thin film transistor having a pixel electrode 135 connected to the upper surface of a drain electrode through a contact hole 133b. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Kim et al., fails to teach or suggest the claimed

combination including at least the feature of "a process of ... to thereby provide a pixel electrode making an interface with the protective film and connected to a side surface of the drain electrode," as recited in newly-amended independent claim 59.

In addition, the Office Action does not rely upon JP 2001-066262 to remedy the above-noted deficiencies of Kaneko et al. and Kim et al. Further, Applicants respectfully submit that JP 2001-066262 cannot remedy the above-noted deficiencies of Kaneko et al. and Kim et al. In other words, Applicants respectfully submit that Kaneko et al., Kim et al. and JP 2001-066262, whether taken individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest the claimed combination including at least the above-noted features recited by newly-amended independent claims 49 and 59.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully assert that the rejections of independent claims 49 and 59 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) should be withdrawn because the applied references do not teach or suggest each and every feature of independent claims 49 and 59, as newly-amended. As pointed out in MPEP § 2131, "[t]o anticipate a claim, the reference must teach every element of the claim." Thus, "[a] claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference. Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. Of California, 2 USPQ 2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987)." Furthermore, Applicants respectfully assert that dependent claims 50-58 and 60-87 are allowable at least because of their dependencies from respective independent claims 49 and 59 and the reasons as those set forth above.

With no other rejections pending, Applicant respectfully asserts that claims 49-87 are in condition for allowance.

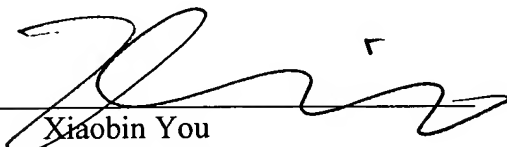
Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request the reconsideration and the timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner believe that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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